

## Message Text

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16

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /017 W  
----- 077210

R 151145Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO AMCONSUL KARACHI

INFO: RUEHKPI/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 4292

SECSTATE WASHDC 1747

USDOC

UNCLAS KABUL 1602

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BMEP, AF

SUBJ: MAJOR EXPORT PROJECT: CORN STARCH FACTORY

REF: A. KABUL 8066, 12/29/74; B. KARACHI 0413 (NOTAL)

1. PLEASE ADVISE MANAGING DIRECTOR, RAFHAN MAIZE PRODUCTS, LYALLPUR, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE INVESTIGATING THIS MEP FOR CPC INTERNATIONAL OF USA THAT FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED IN RESPONSE TO HIS REQUEST. PLANNED CAPACITY OF PLANT- 2,000 TO 4,000 TONS INITIALLY, DEPENDING ON RESULTS OF TECHNO-ECONOMIC STUDY WHICH IS REQUIRED AS PART OF PROJECT. PLANT TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN AREA OF LASHKARGAH, HELMAND PROVINCE, WHICH NOW HARVESTS APPROX 100,000 TONS MAIZE

NNUALLY. PLANT TO PRODUCE CORN STARCH, CORN OIL, AND FEED FOR POULTRY AND CATTLE. AFGHANISTAN CURRENTLY IMPORTS APPROX 1100 TONS OF CORN STARCH ANNUALLY. IRAN ALSO CORN STARCH IMPORTER, POSSIBLE EXPORT BUYER AFTER AFGHAN NEEDS ARE MET. BESIDES EDIBLE OIL, ANIMAL FEED AND OTHER NEEDS FOR PLANT PRODUCTS, AFGHAN TEXTILE INDUSTRY ALONE UNDER CURRENT EXPANSION PLAN WILL REQUIRE APPROX 2800 TONS CORN STARCH ANNUALLY FOR COTTON SIZING WITHIN FIVE YEARS.

2. VERY UNLIKELY THAT US FIRM WILL WIN CONTRACT SOLELY ON BASIS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND LONG DISTANCE ESTIMATES. MINISTRY OF MINES AND INDUSTRIES EXPECTS RECEIVE FINAL  
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BIDS FOR TECHNO-ECONOMIC STUDY AND TURN-KEY CONSTRUCTION

PROJECT BY END OF APRIL. GOA PLANS EXTREMELY FLEXIBLE  
AND CAN BE INFLUENCED BY PERSONAL CONTACT WITH INTERESTED  
FIRMS. FUNDS FOR FINANCING ARE AVAILABLE, AND FIRM WHICH  
SENDS REPRESENTATIVE TO KABUL HAS BEST CHANCE OF OBTAINING  
CONTRACT.

3. FYI. RAFHAN PRODUCTS IMPORTED FROM PAKISTAN SELL WELL  
IN KABUL. GOA EXPECTS FACTORY TO TAKE OVER THIS MARKET.  
ELIOT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** n/a  
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